Average expenditure on transportation of undertrials and convicted prisoners

†1897. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are spending an average of Rs. 1.300 annually on the undertrials and convicted prisoners in Jails for producing them before courts and to take them back to prisons in the country:

(b) if not, the details in this regard; and

(c) the details of the cases under which the accused were in Jails till end of March, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) No data regarding the exact expenditure incurred on the transportation of the undertrials and convicted prisoners is maintained either in the Department of Justice or in the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs. However as per the report of XI Finance Commission, on an average an amount of Rs. 20,075/- is incurred on each undertrial per annum covering diet, medicine, clothing, with extra provision for sanitation and water, correctional programmes and transportation to the courts and back.

(c) No such information is maintained in this Department.

Inordinate delay in filling the vacancies of Judges

1898. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR.T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether expressing serious concern over the inordinate delay in filling vacancies for the posts of Judges and the resultant arrears of 36.40 lakh cases, Government have once again written to the Chief Justices of the High Courts. Chief Ministers of States and the Governors to send proposals for filling the vacancies in the High Courts;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.